

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## DUNBAR CONNECTS TO RURAL WATER DISTRICT VIA USDA FUNDS

**Lincoln, Neb., July 7, 2004**—The Village of Dunbar received in late June, nearly \$225,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development to connect to the Otoe County Rural Water District (RWD) #3 and for water improvements benefiting the 237 rural residents of Dunbar.

"Dunbar is very anxious to begin the Village water project and to have it up and running," stated Carol Bruggenman, village clerk of Dunbar.

"The Village's present water source is inadequate and can no longer meet the water demands of the community," stated Roger Meeks, area director for USDA Rural Development. "Due to the drought conditions, the water table in the region has dropped 10 to 18 feet over the past several years. This has caused the pumping capacity of the Village's existing two wells to be reduced to inadequate levels not allowing the wells to operate simultaneously and causing a burden on the water supply."

The USDA Rural Development \$124,600 loan and \$99,900 grant will provide for the connection fee to the Otoe County RWD #3 along with new water meters, mains, valves, controls and fire hydrants. The USDA Rural Development funds were obtained through its Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant program. The loan term is 40 years at 4.375 percent interest.

"The USDA Rural Development funds will enable the Village of Dunbar to continue to provide safe and dependable water services to its residents," stated Meeks.

For additional information contact Roger Meeks at 6030 S. 58<sup>th</sup> Street Suite B Lincoln, Neb. 68516 or phone (402) 423-9683, (402) 437-5093 (TDY). Visit <a href="http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/">http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/</a>.

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